



The Preservation Post

Historic Preservation Month - May 2006

Historic Preservation Week has been celebrated since 1971 to recognize grassroots preservation efforts around the country. In 2005 Preservation Week was expanded to Preservation Month. The National Trust for Historic Preservation sponsors Preservation Month to raise public awareness for the importance of historic preservation in our communities. The theme for 2006 is "Sustain America: Vision, Economics, and Preservation." For more information about Preservation Month and the National Trust for Historic Preservation visit their website at: <http://www.nationaltrust.org>.

Historic Preservation at Fort Bragg

The Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program, in the Directorate of Public Works, is responsible for identifying, documenting, and protecting the cultural resources at Fort Bragg. There are three historic districts containing 353 historic buildings, structures, and landscapes, 8 individual buildings, and approximately 4000 documented archaeological sites on Fort Bragg. All of these contribute to the history and pre-history of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the United States. The CRMP staff continues to identify archaeological sites and historic buildings and works hard to ensure these resources will be protected for the benefit of future generations.

Fort Bragg Cultural
Resources Program

Volume 4, Issue 1

Spring 2006

Inside this issue:

Preservation Month

Historic Preservation at
Fort Bragg

Range Riders and Game
Wardens

Fort Bragg Matching

Range Riders & Game Wardens

In the midst of the training lands near the western boundary of the reservation is a simple building with an interesting history. The building is located at the intersection of Manchester Road, Morganton Road, and King Road and bears the name Ranger Station 2. The Ranger Station was constructed in 1938 by the Army to house a non-commissioned officer for-est ranger and his family and one or more enlisted men. The enlisted men served a six-month assignment detached from their artillery units, and they lived with the family and worked for the ranger.

The history of the forest ranger program at Fort Bragg begins in the early 1920s when "range riders" patrolled the training lands guarding the Government property from trespassers, poachers, forest fires, and other threats. In the 1920s and early 1930s, rangers and their families lived in 1800s farmhouses that the Army acquired through the purchasing of land to create Camp Bragg. In 1938, the Army demolished the old farmhouses and constructed three new ranger stations scattered strategically in the training lands along the boundaries of the reservation. These ranger stations were occupied until the 1980s by rangers and their families.

In the 1940s, the forest rangers were shifted from the Field Artillery units to the Military Police. Under the Military Police Rangers, their duties were extended to include law enforcement as well wildlife management and hunting operations. The rangers continued to operate under the Military Police until the early 1980s when their jobs became civilianized. Today you will still see rangers roaming the training lands, but they are now referred to as Game Wardens or Wildlife Officers. Similar to their predecessors, their main responsibility is to patrol and protect the training lands and to ensure the safety of soldiers and civilians. Ranger Station 2 is the only remaining station from 1938 and it serves as a landmark of Fort Bragg. The stations were home to several rangers and their families, but they were also important outposts for soldiers and civilians — "a place where a guy can find help if he needs it" (*Paraglide*, 1971).



Ranger Station 2, after its completion in October 1938



Ranger Station 1, old farmhouse, ca. 1930s

Fun and Games

Fort Bragg Matching

Match buildings from the Old Post Historic District with their historic use.
(answers are on the back page)

1.



A. Bakery

B. Barrack

C. Train Depot

D. Theater

2.



3.



4.



Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Program
Directorate of Public Works (I MSE BRG PW)
HQ Fort Bragg Garrison Command (ABN)
Installation Management Agency
BLDG 3-1631 Butner Road
<http://www.bragg.army.mil/culturalresources>
Managing the Past for the Future



Do you enjoy learning about history? Would you like to know more about archaeology or historic buildings? Maybe you have knowledge in these fields and would like to contribute to the Cultural Resources Management Program at Fort Bragg? The CRMP conducts public awareness and educational activities including school programs, public lectures, publications, staff rides, exhibits, and a volunteer program. For more information about these opportunities please contact the CRMP at 910-396-6680.

Answers to Matching:

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. C